

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of May 12 - May 16, 2008**

- 1. Takoma/Langley Sector Plan Meeting! (Wards 2 and 6):** Planners from Takoma Park, Montgomery County and Prince George's County are inviting the community to review information and share their vision and ideas for the future this Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at the Langley Park Community Center, 1500 Merrimac. Last Tuesday, residents of the neighborhoods around Long Branch and members of the environmental community walked the Long Branch Stream Valley and discussed the future of the valley. Members of the community also met with planning staff on May 7th to learn about the Purple Line, planning projects, hear a presentation from Council of Governments on density and design, and to discuss ideas for the Sector Plan area. For more information on this project, see www.mncppc.org/tlc. (*Housing and Community Development*)
- 2. Neighborhood Commercial Area Improvements - Function in the Junction! (Ward 3):** The first "Function in the Junction" - a summer concert series developed in partnership with the House of Musical Traditions and the TPSS Food Co-op - will be held this Friday, May 16 at 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Co-op. The featured performer is Ruthie and the Wranglers. The series was proposed by neighborhood residents and businesses during the Neighborhood Commercial Area workshops held by the Housing and Community Development Department and was consistently rated as the neighborhood first choice among a number of improvements suggested by workshop participants. (*Housing and Community Development*)
- 3. First Time Home Buyer Class Held:** On Saturday, May 10, six prospective home buyers attended a class sponsored by the City and the Latino Economic Development Corporation (LEDC). The class, which was conducted in Spanish had guest speakers from a local bank, a real estate office, a title company and a home inspection company. Knowing the entire process for purchasing a home is a good way to be a smart and savvy buyer. Those attending the 5 hour training received a certificate of completion, which can be used if they access low interest loan programs offered by the county or state. For further information about First Time Home Buyer Programs, call 301.891.7222. (*Housing and Community Development*)
- 4. Foreclosure Prevention Class Held:** On Wednesday, May 14, The City and LEDC sponsored a foreclosure prevention program which outlined the various options that a person has when experiencing financial difficulty, a default of a loan and possible foreclosure. A major point emphasized by the guest speaker from a lending institution, was that owners who are or know that they will be in default on their loans, should immediately contact their lenders to discuss possible modifications to the loan. Attendees received information that was pertinent to their specific issues, which will hopefully help them to remain in their homes. For further information about foreclosure assistance, call 301.891.7222. (*Housing and Community Development*)
- 5. Metropolitan Branch Trail Signs (Ward 1):** Wayfinding and historic and informative panel signs were installed along the Metropolitan Branch Trail this week. The project was funded by a grant from the State of Maryland's Recreational Trail program. (*Housing and Community Development*)

6. **What's on TV?:** The May edition of Snapshots is now airing on City TV and will be available for viewing on the website soon. Segments this month include: Meet the Police Department's New Crime Analyst; Chief Speaks Out: Speed Cameras; Arbor Day in Takoma Park; Old Town Clean Up Day; Taste of Takoma Highlights; and Art in the Community Center: Human Condition. *(City TV)*

7. **The Poets on TV:** City TV crew will be covering the Third Thursday Poetry Series on May 15th. *(City TV)*

8. **Holla At Me:** Number of attendees - 18; Topic - Race Relations - The May 7th session was facilitated by Clayton White along with guest speakers City of Takoma Park Councilmen Terry Seamens and Vice Principal Kareem Bond of Takoma Park Middle School. Participants viewed several clips of the movie "Higher Learning" which highlighted racial conflict. The boys were also asked to define the terms racism, prejudice, and discrimination in their own words. The session concluded with each participant writing a personal "I Am" poem which detailed what characteristics make them the same as others and what characteristics make them different from others. The teens were exposed to many new ideas and concepts as well as had the opportunity to share their own personal views. *(Recreation)*

9. **TGIF Teen Program:** Recreation Teen Programs TGIF and Roadtripz have been very successful this month. Thirty seven youth participated in programs last Friday. Seventeen youth traveled by bus to Baltimore Inner Harbor for a relaxing evening. Teens shopped, played video games at ESPN zone and enjoyed the great food choices that the Inner Harbor offers. Twenty youth took advantage of the open gym, the T zone and the game room. The next Roadtripz is "Paintball" scheduled for Friday, May 23. *(Recreation)*

10. **Afternoon Addition:** Kickin' into high gear, the Afternoon Addition has invited Sifu Thompson to teach Kung Fu to a group of 12 participants. They meet twice a week and practice meditation techniques as well as kicking and punching techniques. The participants love this challenging and fun program and look forward to going each week. *(Recreation)*

11. **Tennis Clinics:** The Spring Tennis Clinics began this week, with two full classes being taught on Mondays and Fridays. The classes are being taught by Recreation Staff member Matt Poorman, and will run for five weeks through June 6. *(Recreation)*

12. **Girls' Lacrosse:** The fourth session of the first ever Girls' Lacrosse clinic was held on Wednesday, May 14. Second- to sixth-grade girls have been having fun while learning the skills in the newly offered sport of Lacrosse. The clinic is run on Wednesdays, and is being taught by Recreation Staff member Melanie Tepsick. *(Recreation)*

13. **Buggy Brigade:** Strolling Along -The Buggy Brigade, four moms and nannies and five toddlers took a stroll down to Sligo Creek, near Kennebec and Houston Avenues and back. While there, we took in the beauty of the surroundings and played on the playground. Buggy Brigade meets on Thursdays from 10:45 - 11:30 a.m. *(Recreation)*

14. **Forward Moving Librarians:** Library Assistant Lucia Acin Andion received her Master's Degree in Library Sciences last week; and, Children's Services Coordinator

Karen MacPherson received an Azalea Award given jointly by the Takoma Foundation and the Takoma Voice. The Azalea Awards was created to honor those who give generously of their time for the greater good of Greater Takoma. *(Library)*

15. Officers in Meetings:

- On May 15, Capt. Ed Coursey, Sgt. Tina Smith, Pfc. Ernest Atwell, Pvt. Samuel Villegas, Ms. Denise Pullet and Ms. Cathy Plevy attended the DARE graduation at the Washington-McLaughlin Christian School in Takoma Park. Pfc. Atwell also presented a K9 demonstration.
- On May 16, Capt. Coursey attended the Montgomery County Police Department Fallen Heroes Ceremony in Montgomery County, Maryland. *(Police)*

16. Officers in Training:

- On May 12 through 15, all officers attended the spring firearms range in Sykesville.
- On May 14, Lt. Richard Cipperly attended the Criminal Investigations and Mid-Level Supervisors Regional Forum sponsored by the John Hopkins University Division of Public Safety Leadership focusing on "Detecting Clues in Homicide Management" in Columbia.
- On May 15, Lt. Cipperly, Lt. Richard Bowers and Crime Analyst Kyle Luy attended MILES/NCIC training in Baltimore. *(Police)*

17. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 81 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, three (3) vehicle impounds, two (2) Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrests from traffic stops and one (1) warrant service (from traffic stop).

During the week of May 6-13, 2008, the following details were completed:

May 6, 2008

- 1200 block of Kirklynn Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued four (4) state citations.

May 7, 2008

- 7300 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued two (2) speeding citations, one (1) state citation for other violation and one (1) warning.

May 10, 2008

- Larch Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued five (5) warnings.
- Linden Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued one (1) speeding citation and two (2) warnings.
- Larch Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued five (5) warnings.

May 13, 2008

- Larch Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) speeding citation and one (1) warning. *(Police)*